New types of nuclear fuels

*818. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:

DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the new types of nuclear fuels developed in our country;

(b) when will they be commercially used for power generation;

(c) what is the per unit cost of these fuels;

(d) whether these are more cost effective than the earlier ones; and

(e) whether we have the technology for their full exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Three types of new fuel have been developed by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), These are:

1. Mixed Oxide Fuel (MOX), which is a mix of uranium dioxide and Plutonium dioxide.

2. Mixed Carbide Fuel (of Uranium and Plutonium), and

3. Uranium (U 233) Aluminium alloy fuel.

(b) A start has been made with the use of a few assemblies of MOX fuel in the reactor at Tarapur and this will be increased progressively. It is too early to say when this will be used commercially for power generation.

(c) and (d) Since these fuels are not being produced on a mass scale, and it would be unrealistic to work out the per unit cost at present.

(e) Yes, Sir. Technology is being constantly improved and innovated from time to time.

Newsprint manufacturing units in the country

*819. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of News print Manufacturing Units in the country, Statewise, and their installed capacity;

(b) what was the total production of Newsprint in the country during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 unit-wise.

(c) what was the profit or loss of each unit from their newsprint production during the above years;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of Government that indigenous newsprint manufacturing units have registered tenfold profits during the last one year; and

(e) whether Government are investigating the abnormal price rise of the newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) There are at present 23 mills in Schedule I to the Newsprint Control Order, 1962 declared as Mills manufacturing newsprint. A Statement giving the names of Newsprint Manufacturing Units, Statewise, alongwith their installed capacity and production during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is enclosed at statement-I (*See* below).

(c) A Statement giving profit or loss in respect of major units in public sector and State sector is at Statement II (*See* below) The data regarding profit or loss in respect or private units is not maintained by the Government.

(d) It is not correct that indigenous newsprint manufacturing units have registered tenfold profits during the last one year. In fact, the price of the indigenous newsprint has increased mainly due to increase in the price of various inputs like raw-materials, coal, power etc.

(e) There is no statutory control over the price of indigenous newsprint. Every revision in the price of indigenous newsprint is referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and prices for a post facto study into its causes and justification.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the Mill	Installed capacity (in tonnes)	State	Production (in MT)		
				1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	Hindustan Newsprint Limited	80,000	Kerala	97,015	98,503	1,05,369
2	Mysore Paper Mills	75,000	Karnataka	78,315	88,605	88,562
3	NEPA Limited	88,000	Madhya Pradesh	74,970	65,860	57,950
4	Tamilnadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd.	50,000	Tamil Nadu	40,477	33,970	28,659
5	Rayalseema Paper Mills Limited	20,000	Andhra Pradesh	..	..	..
6	Nagaon Paper Mills (HPC)	20,000	Assam	12,761	1,324	1,388
7	Cachar Paper Mills (HPC)	20,000	Assam	9,016	4,802	Nil
8	Aurangabad Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd.	20,000	Maharashtra	..	14,318	19,019
9	Sun Papers Mills Limited	22,000	Tamil Nadu	..	19,844	20,313
10	Jayant Paper Mills Limited	18,000	Gujarat	..	9,115	9,264
11	Servalaksmi Paper & Boards	15,000	Tamilnadu	..	4,056	8,567
12	Danalakshmi Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd.	7,250	Tamilnadu	..	1,087	7,044
13	Ajanta Paper & General Products Ltd.	8,200	Maharashtra	..	8,540	9,385
14	Amrit Papers	24,000	Punjab	..	3,830	2,512
15	Sri Venkatesa Paper & Boards Ltd.	15,000	Tamilnadu	..	2,492	14,457
16	Indo Afrique Paper Mills Limited	10,000	Maharashtra	..	3,998	6,940
17	GVG Paper Mills (P) Limited	9,500	Taimilnadu	..	989	5,580
18	Rani Paper Mills Limited	7,500	Uttar Pradesh	..	..	8,784

S.No.	Name of the Mill	Installed capacity (in tonnes)	State	Production (in MT)		
				1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
19.	Shirke Paper Mills Limited.	6,000	Mahraashtra	..	..	2,790
20.	The United Pulp & Paper Ltd.	20,000	Punjab	..	..	..
21.	Gulmohar Paper Limited	5,000	West Bengal	..	..	3,291
22.	Amravati Sri Venkatesa Paper Mills Limited	9,990	Tamilnadu	..	..	2,349
23.	Laxmi Board and Paper Mills Limited	12,661	Maharashtra	..	..	..
	TOTAL	5,63,011		3,12,554	3,61,330	4,02,223

Statement-II

S.No.	Name of the Mill	central Public/ State Public Sector	Profit/Loss (Rs. crores)		
			1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Hindustan Newsprint Limited	Central Public Sector	(+)19.49	(+)22.47	(+)30.87
2.	NEPA Limited	do.	(—)5.19	(—)25.66	(—)21.07
3.	Mysore Paper Mills Limited	State Public Sector	Nil	(+)5.17 (prov.)	(+)20.00 (prov.)
4.	Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited	do.	(+)54.19	(+)54.05	(+)56.06* (prov.)

* This profit is for the total capacity of the plant which includes newsprint capacity of 50,000 tonnes and writing and printing paper capacity of 40,000 tonnes.

Foreign projects cleared for investment

*820. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 147 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government have recently cleared 69 foreign projects, envisaging